

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Community Members,

STEM Opening

Well it is finally here, tomorrow morning at 10:00am we will officially open our STEM facility. We have many dignitaries attending the opening including the Minister of Education, John Gardener, our local Member of Parliament, Eddie Hughes, the Mayor, Clare McLaughlin, several officials from the Department for Education, the architects, the builders, local principals and our wonderful school community. I hope to see many of you here for this event.

As you know we were fortunate to be one of the four local schools that became part of the government's STEM Works program that was aimed to provide our children with an innovative and engaging learning facility to open their eyes to what is an exciting and dynamic area of study. One of the aims of the program is for each child to approach STEM learning with confidence and to understand its strong impact on their future employment and contributions as both citizens and leaders. We are fortunate to have highly engaged, well-qualified teachers who use quality teaching and learning approaches that encourage risk, innovation and problem-solving to lead this learning. Our children have much to look forward to in this area, with the future of Whyalla moving in this direction also, with many initiatives being planned, involving these skills.

National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence

Tomorrow also marks the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence (NDA). This is an important day to mark Australians standing together to say Bullying. No Way! Take action every day! This year our school has decided to put our focus on the attributes that people who don't bully have and all classes will be involved in activities that are themed around kindness and compassion.

Teaching children about social skills and getting on with others is important. As parents and educators we have a crucial role in providing our children with opportunities to use and practise social skills. We need to help them develop social and emotional skills, make friends and to get on with others by showing compassion and accepting difference.



Story Dogs

This year we are fortunate enough to have Story Dogs back with us working with students from Room 7 and room 8. Our handler is Helen Farrel and her trusty companion is Sheldon.

The aim of this program is to make reading fun for children, so they become confident lifelong readers. When our children read to a dog, the outcomes are amazing! The setting is non-judgemental, so the children's focus improves, their literacy skills increase and their confidence soars. The accepting, loving nature of dogs gives this program its magic and helps children relax, open up, try harder and have fun while reading to a friendly, calm dog.



Swimming Lessons

Its that time of the year again when all of our junior primary classes go swimming. Next week our two Reception classes will have a lesson each day and the following week all of our Year 1 and Year 2 classes will attend. The swimming program aims to help students develop a range of knowledge, skills and understanding about water confidence, survival in the water, swimming technique, rescue of others and water safety. We are all aware of the importance of children learning to be safe in and around water so it is integral that the children attend all of these lessons providing they are well.

Pam Peters

RESPECT

TEAMWORK

INTEGRITY

RESILIENCE

RESPONSIBILITY

Telephone 08 8645 8685

Office Hours 8.00am to 4.00pm

Principal: Pam Peters

Deputy Principal: Ben Harris-Jones

Senior Leader: Sally Rowe

Finance: Phillip Datson

Secretary: Catherine Worby

Admin Assistant: Margaret Dawson

Student Wellbeing Leader: Cynthia Spangenberg

Diary Dates

STEM Opening	15 Mar
National Close the Gap day	15 Mar
National day of Action against Bullying & Violence	15 Mar
JP Swimming for Rec – Year 2	18 Mar – 29 Mar
Harmony Day	21 Mar
Athletics	5 April
End of Term 1	12 April



*Nicolson Avenue Primary School
cordially invites our*

PARENT COMMUNITY

*to attend the opening of our
STEM Room*



**FRIDAY 15 MARCH 2019
10-11AM
NICOLSON AVENUE PRIMARY SCHOOL
WHYALLA NORRIE**

Assembly Roster Term 1

Week 8	Room 19 & Room 25
Week 10	Room 20 & Room 6
Week 11	ANZAC Assembly

Lost Property



We have a collection of unnamed drink bottles and lunch boxes in the Administration Office that would love to find their way home!!!!

Can we ask that all property brought to school be named, this makes it very easy for it to be returned to its rightful owner. 😊

Library News

Do you have excess Coles, Woolies or Harris Scarfe bags?

The library is in need of heavy duty plastic bags.

If you have spare plastic bags lying around at home, please drop these off to the library.



Canteen Menu Change

Glee drinks are no longer available for sale at the canteen. These have been replaced by the Quench drinks.

Quench flavours are: Apple Raspberry, Blue Heaven or Orange.

Please note that these drinks replace the Glee drinks and are the same price.



Arriving at School



A quick reminder we have no one on duty before 8:30am when students are able to enter the school yard.

For safety please ensure your child arrives at school after 8.30am.

Student Absences

If your child is or will be absent from school for any reason, please contact the school on 86 45 8685 or 0437 146 299 to advise absent dates and reason.